

CONDITIONING LEATHER

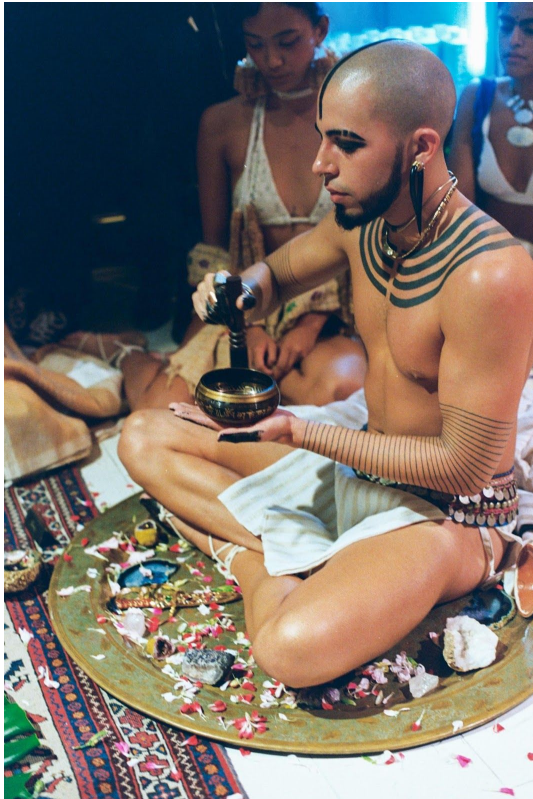
Curated by Duneska Suannette

#ConditioningLeatherBAS

June 5-July 20, 2019

Opening Reception: June 8, 2019 6:00-9:00 pm

**Andre Batista | Wyeth Moss | Sean-Kierre Lyons
Briget Villanueva | Taina Cruz**



Curated by Duneska Suannette, winner of BAS inaugural Curatorial Open Call | Emerging Bronx Voices, *Conditioning Leather* documents how artists of color explore the relationship between memory and materiality as a way to heal from transgenerational trauma. Oftentimes, psychotherapists suggest creating a genogram in order to work through transgenerational trauma, however this does not consider the history of erasure and violence most people of color share. The artists featured in *Conditioning Leather* work through their own battle with transgenerational trauma by incorporating materials that spark memories of ancestral strength and perseverance. However, the programming is just as important as the work exhibited considering the goal of *Conditioning Leather* is to bring a modern form of therapy to the Bronx Community. That is because, like leather, we must be conditioned and protected. The difference is that we must do it ourselves.

Duneska Suannette is an artist, curator, and educator who considers how space can directly influence an individual's psyche. This is especially important for people of color as

oftentimes spaces are not created with them in mind. Suannette delved into this theme through her experiences as an educator as she saw how classroom environments influenced the productivity and learning potential of students. It was in City College of New York where Suannette studied Studio Art with a concentration in education that she began thinking about the larger theme of space. While in school, and after graduating, Suannette worked with various galleries, organizations, and institutions including NurtureArt, Museum of Arts and Design, The Children's Museum of the Arts and No Longer



Empty. Throughout the span of the exhibition, *Conditioning Leather*, she will also be working as one of the Early Arts Practitioners Council Members at the Joan Mitchell Foundation.

Free Workshops + Events

RSVP at www.withfriends.co/bronxartspace

Tues. 3/5-6/24 6-8pm

One Book One Bronx

Weds 6/5 6:30-8:30

Mi Casa Writers Workshop

Thurs 6/6 5:30-7:30pm

Rooted in Neighborhood: Bronx Artists working in their Communities

Sat 6/8 6:30-9pm

Opening Reception for *Conditioning Leather*

Weds 6/12 7-9pm

Imagination Manifests Dreams Workshop

Thurs 6/13 6-9pm

The Creative Entrepreneur Conference

Sat 6/15 4:30

Screening of *Dulce* + Conscious Book Making w/ Isis Rivas

Sat 6/15 7-9pm

The Gathering + Open Mic

Weds 6/19 6-7pm

Curator-guided Tour: *Conditioning Leather*

Weds 6/19 7-9pm

Mi Casa Writers Workshop Open Mic

Sat 6/22 2-4pm

Shaman Ritual w/ Andre Batista

Sat 6/29 6-8pm

An Open Conversation: The Relationship between Materiality + Culture

Sat 7/6 4-6pm

Screening of "Pelo Malo" + making Mal de Ojo Baths w/ Wyeth Moss

Weds 7/10 6-7pm

Curator-guided tour: *Conditioning Leather*

Sat 7/13 3-4pm

Ancestors making Workshop w/ Madjeen Isaac

Sat 7/20 4-6pm

Shaman Ritual w/ Andre Batista

Sat 7/20 6:30-9pm

Closing Reception for *Conditioning Leather*

Thurs 7/25-Mon 7/19

La Reina Project: Giving the Crown to the Community Bronx Pride celebration Exhibition

Sat 7/29 5:30pm-8pm

Opening Reception for La Reina Project: Giving the Crown to the Community Bronx Pride